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Stroming, or *Stromling*, when it is small.

Sild, *Quale-sild*, and *Grabeen-sild*, in Denmark, when it is large, *Stromling* when it is small.

Straale-sild, and *Gaate-sild*, in Norway,

Kapiselikan, in Greenland.

Beltschutsch, in Kamskatka.

Haring, in Holland.

Herring, in England,

Hareng, in France,

To be continued.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE EXCURSION...A DIALOGUE.

MRS. E. You say there was something wanting to complete the happiness which you hoped to enjoy in your excursion yesterday.

Mary. Yes Ma'am, and without that something I would have preferred staying at home.

Mrs. E. Pray were your companions disagreeable?

Mary. No, I could not find fault with them, they were very obliging.

Mrs. E. Was your conveyance inconvenient?

Mary. Our carriage was completely calculated not only for ease, but that we might behold all the surrounding beauties.

Mrs. E. Were you uncomfortable at having left home, or what was the cause of your dissatisfaction?

Mary. Having left every thing regulated at home, and in good hands, I set out without any anxiety, and was rejoiced at the prospect of beholding a country famous for its beauty; and the idea of travelling with my old school-fellows, was an additional pleasure. As soon as we were in sight of a small portion of the beautiful scenery which was new to me, I admired aloud every thing which struck me; my companions answered "it was very pretty," and continued the discourse which they had just commenced about the convenience of hats and habits for travelling. I was a little disappointed, but as we advanced farther into that enchanting country, so amply enriched with variety of scenery both fertile and wildly sublime, I thought surely their admiration would be called forth, but what was my astonish-

ment and mortification that they still continued their trivial conversation, and seemed to grow tired of my remarks, not even granting me the two words "very pretty." I then endeavoured to be silent and to enjoy myself without their assistance, but I found it was impossible to have complete happiness without participation. Sometimes I incommoded my friends by turning round to look at every side. Almost at the end of our drive we descended into a deep glen, the solemnity and grandeur of which enraptured me. I considered what enjoyment I should have if I was there alone, and at liberty to walk slow, and to climb up the sides, from the top of which I was sure there were lovely prospects; I also considered that I might probably never be there again, and was extremely mortified to be driving through it, as if it were the most uninteresting place in the world; but as we professed to be on a party of pleasure, I requested to be let down to walk there until they returned; they were very unwilling, but said if I chose to be so odd I might do as I pleased: accordingly I got out, and never did I behold any thing to equal the beauties around me. But there was something wanting; my heart was overflowing with rapturous delight, but there was no one to participate with me. But to be alone was much better than to be listening to conversation which so disagreed with my feelings. My companions returned and took me up. I was silent most of the remainder of the journey, although I strove to enter into their discourse, but I found it impossible: now you know the whole cause of my dissatisfaction.

Mrs. E. I perfectly understand all the sensations of pain and pleasure, you have related. You are very young; you feel your heart glowing with admiration of nature; your natural warmth and sociability of disposition causes you to wish for participation, and your inexperience causes you to be disappointed and mortified when you meet with contrary characters; but wait a little while, and you will find your passions will become cooler, and experience

will cause you not to expect to meet with persons of similar dispositions; yet you will retain a temperate and sweet admiration of nature, and when chance leads you to mix with characters to your taste, you will also feel a temperate but lasting pleasure—Do not

despise moderation—Do not confound it with stupidity; they inspire their votaries with far different sensations: but your own good sense assisted by experience will be of more use to you than any thing I can say.

ELIZA.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

LIFE OF THE EARL OF MACARTNEY.

Continued from p. 285, No. IX.

ABOUT this time the Court of Directors of the East India Company were looking out for a proper person to fill the Presidency of Madras. The enormous abuses which had been committed by a succession of weak or wicked governors, who had attained this station, through no merit of their own, but merely by the routine of service, loudly called for reformation; and it was evident to every man of sense and honesty, that in order to restore the reputation of the administration, and establish the affairs of the company on a firm basis, the choice must fall on a man of known capacity, integrity and firmness. Notwithstanding the great difficulties that appeared, many candidates presented themselves. The choice at length, after some opposition, fell upon Lord Macartney; so universal was the prepossession in his favour, both among the directors and proprietors, that he was appointed without the usual forms of a ballot.

Immediately after receiving his appointment, he set out to take possession of his charge, and at the beginning of June, 1781, arrived at Madras. On inquiring into the general state of affairs he found them still worse than they had been represented. A war had been declared against the English by Hyder Ali, who had followed up this declaration, by an invasion of the Carnatic. At the head of an army of 100,000 cavalry, he over-ran the Carnatic, spreading desolation on every side, and gratifying his hatred of the English, by the indiscriminate slaughter of every one subjected to their dominion. The country was depopulated. Those who escaped the sword, fled to the seat of government for shelter and support. The city of Madras, surrounded on

every side by large detachments of the marauding Indians, who daily approached to the very gates, was forced to depend on the precarious subsistence procured by sea. The multitudes which flocked in, increased the pressure of public calamity. The British government, which, either through contempt or ignorance, had neglected to make the proper preparations, wasted the time that should have been employed in opposing the enemy, in useless recrimination. The army was badly paid; the native troops deserted in numbers to the enemy. Those which remained were disabled, through want of cavalry and military stores, from taking the field. And the only two allies to whom the English could look for relief, the Nabob of Arcot, and the Rajah of Tanjore sent in supplies sparingly and with reluctance. To complete all, a war which broke out between England and the United Provinces added a formidable enemy to the number against which the British Government in India had to contend.

At this crisis Lord Macartney assumed the reins. By employing all his influence, both public and private, he collected means sufficient to satisfy the troops for the present, and inspire them with better hopes for the future, and immediately taking advantage of the spirit thus raised, led them out, and gained several important advantages over the enemy. At the same time conscious of the difficulties against which he had to struggle he made proposals to Hyder Ali for a pacification. The reply of this chieftain shows that the conduct of the English in similar cases had been such as to render their fidelity in keeping the engagements entered into with the native powers more than doubtful. "The governors and sir